

Program Name:	Pitt in Bolivia: Culture, Society & Service Learning
Course Name:	SOC1515 Contemporary Issues in Bolivian Society
Offering Course:	Connect2Bolivia
Course Hours:	42 Classroom Hours
Instructors:	David Pereira Herrera; Alexis Sarah Wieczorek
Term:	Summer Semester 2018 (Six Week Intensive)
Credits:	3 Credits

Course Description

This course will introduce students to issues facing current Bolivian society from multiple disciplines. The focus will be on the historical, geographical, social, economic, political and cultural contexts. Students will learn through lectures, observations and personal communication with the local Cochabamba community about social realities, social change, and local challenges (<https://www.abroad.pitt.edu/boliviaservicelearning>).

The course will be instructed by David Pereira Herrera (David Senior) and is divided into 10 sessions (3-4 hours each). In addition, about once a week Alexis Wieczorek will address the cultural understandings of the students' experiences with self-investigations.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will have the skills and knowledge to:

1. Identify key aspects of Human Geography and Bolivian Pluri-Cultural Society by explaining the main collective contents and mechanisms of thinking, feeling, and living within the Bolivian society;
2. Discuss and analyze the main cultural, historical, and political factors that shape the issues currently facing Bolivia and its populations;
3. Compare and contrast evolutionary aspects of the ancient versus traditional ways of thinking and learning within the Bolivian culture; and
4. Evaluate the concepts of interculturality, decolonization, and other terms pertinent to Bolivia.

Course Requirements & Assessments

Grades will be determined by the following components:

Class Participation & Attendance (35%)

Students are expected to keep up to date with readings, attend classes and fieldtrips, and engage in class discussion of readings and fieldtrips.

Each class will be based on 5 points scale: 5 points-attended, participated beyond expectations (spoke more than 3 times), respectful towards lecturer, material and classmates; 4 points-attended, participated expectedly (spoke at least 2 times), respectful towards lecturer, material and classmates; 3 points- attended, participated standardly (spoke at least once), respectful towards lecturer, material and classmates; 2 points-attended, did not participate, respectful towards lecturer, material and classmates; 1 point-attended or excused absences (each absences will be examined case by case) and/or disrespectful towards lecturer, material and classmates; 0 points-Unexcused absences.

Course Assignments (40%)

Students will be given three course assignments that analyze the structured learning encounters and class lectures. These assignments will connect the experiences in Bolivia with the course readings, lectures, and discussions. These are analytical assignments, and students must investigate and support their answers with appropriate MLA or APA citing and bibliography. **These will be due on Thursday of Week 2 (05/16th), Week 4 (05/30th), and Week 6 (06/13th).** All Course assignments should be sent to alexis.wieczorek@connect2bolivia.com & damapehe@hotmail.com

Field Investigations (25%)

There will be several field trips and two excursions throughout the six week course. Students will be expected to choose one or two of these fieldtrips/excursions and present their experiences by relating their cultural encounters to the course readings, lectures, and discussions. Additionally, students will include added academic materials and independent research (observations in Cochabamba or interviews with locals). The Field Investigation rubric will be provided.

Course Grading

The following grading scale will be used for your course:

A+	98-100	B+	88-89	C+	78-79	D	60-69
A	93-97	B	83-87	C	73-77	F	<60
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72		

Bibliography

The following list is the bibliography for the course and is not a part of the required readings. This list consists of reading material that the course draws upon. If you have access to these materials, you may use them to help support your course assignments and field investigations.

Dangl, Benjamin. (2007). *The Price of Fire: Resource Wars and Social Movements in Bolivia*. Library of Congress Control.

Farthing, L., & Ledebur, K. (2014). To the Beat of a Different Drum: Bolivia's Community Coca Control. *NACLA Report on the Americas*, 47(2), 51-55.

Galeano Eduardo. (1999). *Open Veins in Latin America*. La Paz.

Johnson, B.B. (2010). Decolonization and Its Paradoxes: The (Re)envisioning of Health Policy in Bolivia. *Latin American Perspectives*, 37(3), 139-159.
<http://doi.org/10.1177/0094582X10366535>

Klein, Herbert. (2000). *Historia General de Bolivia*. Editorial Juventud. La Paz.

Koss-Chiono, J., Leatherman, T., & Greenway, C. (Eds.). (2003). *Medical Pluralism in the Andes*. New York: Routledge.

Mignone, J., Bartlett, J., O'Neil, J., & Orchard, T. (2007). Best practices in intercultural health: five case studies in Latin America. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine*, 3(31).

<http://doi.org/10.1186/1746-4269-3-31>

Shultz, James & Draper, Melissa. (2009). *Dignity and Defiance: Stories from Bolivia's Challenge to Globalization*. Ed. 1. University of California Press.

Werner, Robert J. (2009). *Bolivia in Focus: A guide to the People, Politics, and Culture*. Interlink Publishing Group, Inc.

Wutich, A. (2009). Intrahousehold Disparities in Women and Men's Experiences of Water Insecurity and Emotional Distress in Urban Bolivia. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, 23(4), 436-454. <http://doi.org/10.1111/j.1548-1387.2009.01072.x>

Bibliography of Required Readings and/or Course Assignments

These reading materials will be provided for you in class as handouts or will be e-mailed to you. This is a list of the required course readings.

Arrueta, J.A., & Avery, H. (2012). Education Reform in Bolivia: transitions towards which future? *Research in Comparative and International Education*, 7(4), 419-433.

Fabricant, N., & Hicks, K. (2013). Bolivia's Next Water War. *Radical History Review*, 116(116), 130-145. <http://doi.org/10.121/01636545->

Farthing, Linda C. & Kohl, Benjamin H. (2014). *Evo's Bolivia: Continuity and Change*. University of Texas Press.

Gade, Daniel W. (1999). *Nature and Culture in the Andes*. The University of Wisconsin Press. Wisconsin.

Kohl, B. (2010). Bolivia under Morales: A Work in Progress. *Latin American Perspectives*, 37(3), 107-122. <http://doi.org/10.1177/0094582X10366533>

McNeish, J.-A. (2013). Extraction, Protest and Indigeneity in Bolivia: The TIPNIS Effect. *Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies*, 8(2), 221-242. <http://doi.org/10.1080/17442222.2013.808495>

Richards, K.J. (2009). *Culture Smart! Bolivia*. New York: Kuperard.

Weatherford, Jack. (1989). *Indian Givers*. Ballantine Books. New York

Course Content

Due to excursions and other cultural activities, the sessions, reading materials, and assignments are subject to change. It is your responsibility to take note of the changes presented throughout the course.

Session 1

- **Topic:** Introduction “ A Journey to the past”
 - o **Field Trip:** Visit to the University Archaeological Museum
 - o **Readings:**
 1. *Indian Givers* Chapter 1 (Silver and Money Capitalism)
 2. Richards, K.J. (2009). *Culture Smart! Bolivia*. New York: Kuperard.

Session 2

- **Topic:** The Geographical and Environmental Context of Bolivia (Andean, Amazonian and Chaco regions)
 - o **Field Trip:** Eat Api and Pastel
 - o **Readings:**
 1. *Indian Givers* Chapter 2 (Piracy, Slavery, and the Birth of Corporations)
 2. *Nature and Culture in the Andes* Chapter 3 (Deforestation and Reforestation of the Central Andean Highlands)

Session 3

- **Topic:** The process of historical-cultural conformation in Bolivia. The independent and dependent phases as well as the formation of colonial society from the sixteenth century. The interdisciplinary combination: archeology, ethno history, anthropology and linguistics.
 - o **Field Trip:** Visit El Palacio Patino
 - o **Readings:**
 1. *Nature and Culture in the Andes* Chapter 1 (Reflections and Trajectories)
 2. *Nature and Culture in Andes* Chapter 7 (Valleys of Mystery on the Peruvian Jungle Margin and the Inca Coca Connection)

Session 4

- **Topic:** Bolivian Politics: Water War & Gas War; the Rise of President Evo Morales, TIPNIS
 - o **Readings:**
 1. Kohl, B. (2010). *Bolivia under Morales: A Work in Progress*
 2. Fabricant, N., & Hicks, K. (2013). *Bolivia's Next Water War*.
 3. McNeish, J.-A. (2013). *Extraction, Protest and Indigeneity in Bolivia: The TIPNIS Effect*.

Session 5

- **Topic:** Archaeological Inca Site Relevance in Culture
 - o **Field Trip:** Visit to Cotaphachi-Quillacollo
 - o **Readings:**
 1. *Indian Givers* Chapter 4 (The Food Revolution)
 2. *Indian Givers* Chapter 5 (Indian Agricultural Technology)

Session 6

- Topic: The Mentality and Ways of being Bolivian. The intertwining of knowledge between the ancestral and modern day life: health, religiosity and education.
 - Field Trips: Visit Universidad Mayor de San Simon & CBA English Institute/CCS
 - **Readings**:
 1. Farthing, L., & Kohl, B. (2014). *Evo's Bolivia: Continuity and Changes* (Chapter 6: Living Well/Vivir Bien: Government Transfers, Health, and Education)
 2. Arrueta, J.A., & Avery, H. (2012). *Education Reform in Bolivia: transitions towards which future?*

Session 7

- Topic: Traditional Andean Medicine and Guest Lecturer, Elmer Guzman (night)
 - Field Trips: Visit Kuska (w/David Senior) and Public Hospital vs. Private Hospital (w/Chaby)—Week of Session 9
 - **Readings**:
 1. *Indian Givers* Chapter 11 (The Indian Healer)
 2. Joseph William Bastien Chapter 10: *Sucking blood or snatching fat Chagas' disease in Bolivia*
 3. Libbet Crandon Chapter 3: *Changing times and changing symptoms*

Session 8

- Topic: Coca in Bolivia-from pre-Columbian times to globalization and the war on drugs.
 - **Readings**:
 1. *Indian Givers* Chapter 11 (The Drug Connection)
 2. Farthing, L., & Kohl, B. (2014). *Evo's Bolivia: Continuity and Changes* (Chapter 8: The Scared Leaf at the Center: ReConceptualizing Drug Policy)

Session 9

- Topic: Frictions and encounters in the processes of gender formation in Cochabamba and Bolivia; Remaining topics that need to be addressed.
 - Field Trips: Public Hospital vs. Private Hospital
 - **Readings**: TBA

Session 10

- Field Investigation Presentation